

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-25 (Canceled).

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A fixing system adapted to be secured to ~~for fixing~~ a panel of fragile material ~~to a bearing structure~~, wherein the panel comprises two faces and at least one edge surface connecting said faces, wherein the at least one edge surface comprises a first contact region and a second contact region, wherein a portion of said panel is interposed between said first and second contact regions, the fixing system comprising:

at least one point fastener comprising ~~configured to engage with at least one first contact region produced in the panel,~~

~~wherein said point fastener comprises~~ a first anchoring part [[at a]] configured to engage said first contact region and a second anchoring part [[at a]] configured to engage said second contact region ~~situated on the panel;~~ and

~~the first and second anchoring parts being connected by~~ at least one adjusting device configured to apply a force in a direction parallel to said faces and along a line connecting the first and second anchoring parts to draw the first and second anchoring parts toward one another, whereby ~~bring~~ the first and second anchoring parts [[to]] bear against the interposed portion of the panel at the first and second contact regions, respectively ~~and being situated in a plane of the panel.~~

Claim 27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the second contact region is situated on a side edge of the panel.

Claim 29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Withdrawn/Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein at least one of the first and the second contact regions is at an edge provided ~~produced~~ within a blind orifice.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein at least one of the first and the second contact regions is at an edge provided at ~~produced within~~ an open orifice.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein at least one of the first and the second contact regions is at an edge provided at ~~produced within~~ a cut-out.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn/Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein at least one of the first and the second contact regions is at an edge provided at ~~produced using~~ a number of raised regions.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein at least one of the first and the second contact regions is produced by pinching.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the first and second contact regions are positioned on two respective adjacent side edges ~~sides~~ of the panel.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The fixing system as claimed in claim 35, wherein the first and second contact regions are positioned one on each side of an axis of symmetry of the panel.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the fixing system comprises two of said point fasteners, each of said point fasteners positioned on a different ~~each~~ side of a mid-plane roughly parallel to the faces of said panel, the mid-plane also being roughly perpendicular to the at least one edge having said first and second contact regions.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, further comprising a rigid interlayer positioned between one of the first and second contact regions and one of the first or second anchoring parts.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The fixing system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the adjusting device comprises a tensioning device.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The fixing system as claimed in claim 39, wherein the tensioning device comprises a screw-nut device.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The fixing system as claimed in claim 39, wherein the adjusting device comprises a torque-limiting device.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claim 38, wherein the rigid interlayer comprises a rigid interlayer element and an adhesive material, the rigid interlayer element contributing to dimensional stability by reacting forces while the adhesive material allows an adhesive bond to be achieved.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the interlayer element is made of a material with a Shore D hardness of the order of at least 70 to 75.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claim 43, wherein the material of which the interlayer element is made is chosen from transparent materials of polycarbonate or hard silicone that do not adversely affect esthetics.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the adhesive material has a Shore A hardness of the order of 30 to 35 and is chosen from silicone adhesives.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the interlayer element is arranged along an axis of a mid-plane of the panel.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The fixing system as claimed in claims 26, wherein one of the first or second contact regions is fitted with a ferrule, having the point fasteners passing through it.

Claims 48-50 (Canceled).

Claim 51 (New): An assembly comprising:

a panel of fragile material having two faces and at least one edge surface connecting said faces, the at least one edge surface comprising a first contact region and a second contact region, wherein a portion of said panel is interposed between said first and second contact regions; and

at least one point fastener comprising a first anchoring part configured to engage said first contact region and a second anchoring part configured to engage said second contact region; and

at least one adjusting device configured to apply a force in a direction parallel to said faces and along a line connecting the first and second anchoring parts to draw the first and second anchoring parts toward one another, whereby the first and second anchoring parts bear against the interposed portion of the panel at the first and second contact regions, respectively.